

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/729,651

Examiner

Tony Mahmoudi

Applicant(s)

CHOI ET AL.

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 03-August-2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11, 13, 14, and 15, re-numbered as claims 1-4.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

C. Rones
CHARLES RONES
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. In response to the amendment filed on 03-August-2004, claims 7, 9, and 10 have been canceled, claim 14 has been amended, and new claim 15 has been added per applicant's request. Claims 11 and 13-15 are pending in the application.

Allowance

2. Claims 11 and 13-15 are allowed over the prior art made of record.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record, Dunworth et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,930,474), Feldmeier et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,289,414), MeLampy (U.S. Patent No. 6,311,186), Kushita (U.S. Patent No. 5,872,518), and Kazunari (Japanese Patent No. 408163173A) do not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claim):

the hierarchical routing process further comprising:

a first step wherein a router of a high level area code hierarchy identifies a high level area code in the zip code system, and forwards to a corresponding high level area;

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a second step wherein a router of a middle level area code hierarchy identifies a middle level area code in the zip code system, and forwards to a corresponding middle level area;

a third step wherein a router of a low level area code hierarchy identifies a low level area code in the zip code system, and forwards to a corresponding low level area; and

a fourth step wherein a router of a subscriber ID number hierarchy identifies a subscriber ID number, and routes to a destination identical to the subscriber ID number, as claimed in the amended claim 11.

Claims 13-15 are allowed over the prior art made of record because they are dependent from the allowed amended independent claim 11.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tony Mahmoudi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4078. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 08:00 am to 04:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici, can be reached at (571) 272-4083.

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November 9, 2004



CHARLES RONES
PRIMARY EXAMINER